

1. (Currently amended) A method for verifying an amount of a sample solution comprising the steps of:

(a) detecting at least one selected from the group consisting of a transmitted light component, a scattered light component and a reflected light component of a light which is traversed by a rising surface of the sample solution being injected into a sample cell, and outputting an output signal  $S$  corresponding to the detection; and

(b) verifying that a predetermined amount of said sample solution is held in said sample cell based on a change in the output signal,

wherein step (b) ~~[[is performed]]~~ includes a step of calculating ~~[[based on]]~~ a change over time in the output signal  $dS/dt$ , ~~and~~

~~wherein step (b) is a step of verifying that said predetermined amount of said sample solution is held in said sample cell based on the fact that an absolute value of an amount of change in said output signal over time is maintained at or less than a first predetermined value for a first predetermined duration or longer.~~

Proposed  
Amendment  
- affirmative calculation  
of  $\frac{dS}{dt}$   
S being  
output signal